

IDAHO ATHLETIC COMMISSION
Bureau of Occupational Licenses
700 West State Street, P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0063

Board Meeting Minutes of 3/9/2012

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Tom Katsilometes
Deputy Commissioner James R Stoll
Deputy Commissioner Robert Michael Vestal

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Deputy Commissioner James Grow, Jr.
Deputy Commissioner Jon Vestal

BUREAU STAFF: Tana Cory, Bureau Chief
Lori Peel, Investigative Unit Manager
Maurie Ellsworth, Legal Counsel
John Kersey, Supervising Investigator

OTHERS PRESENT: Ken Butler, Rulon Day, Scot Marker, Elijah Morris, Cosmo Zimik, Juan Perez, Amy Wernsing

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM MST by Tom Katsilometes. Mr. Katsilometes thanked those in attendance for being there. He introduced James Stoll and thanked him for all his hard work and for saving the Commission money by working on the rules and events without compensation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Katsilometes approved the minutes of 2/3/2012 with the recommendation of Mr. Stoll.

Mr. Katsilometes introduced Amy Wernsing from the Governor's Office and thanked her for attending the meeting. He also introduced Tana Cory, Mike Vestal, and Maurie Ellsworth to the audience.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Cory reported that the Commission's rules to increase fees have been passed by both the House and the Senate.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Cory presented the Financial Report which shows a cash balance of negative (\$175,218.48) as of February 29, 2012.

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Ms. Peel presented the investigative report.

I-ATC-2010-1, I-ATC-2010-12, I-ATC-2011-1, I-ATC-2011-5, I-ATC-2011-8 Mr. Katsilometes accepted the recommendation and authorized closure.

Discussion was held on the cost of investigations. Mr. Stoll asked if the Commission could require a bond for frivolous complaints. Ms. Cory explained that in order to protect the public, the commission must investigate complaints. She further explained that other boards have discussed this issue and it was feared that the public may forego the filing of a complaint if they thought they may be charged. Mr. Perez suggested action against a licensee who files a frivolous complaint. Mr. Butler stated that the national boxing organization requires a fee along with any complaint filed. If the complaint is valid the fee is returned. Mr. Ellsworth stated there is a difference between filing a complaint and protesting the outcome of a contest. In the case of protesting an outcome there may be good reason to require the individual protesting to post a bond which would be forfeited if the original outcome of the contest is upheld. This would require a change in the law or rules.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the fee increase. The fee schedule for officials was reviewed. Mr. Katsilometes asked Mr. Day and Mr. Marker to review the schedule and see what changes need to be made. Mr. Zimik stated that the fee will be very difficult for kids to come up with. Ms. Cory explained the history of the Athletic Commission and that the Commission has to be self-supporting. She also mentioned the Commissioner's analogy to soccer and other extra-curricular sports. The biggest concern for Mr. Perez and Mr. Zimik is the huge increase for the amateur combatants. They explained that they usually end up covering the costs for their kids to compete. Mr. Butler explained that amateur boxing is governed by one national governing organization.

NEW BUSINESS

The fee schedule used for boxing was revised by Mr. Butler and presented to the Commission for review. Mr. Day and Mr. Marker will revise and present the adjusted fee schedule to the Commission later in this meeting.

Muay Thai Event - Mr. Stoll stated that the rules call for special consideration if the combatant is under 18 years of age. He stated that this sounded more like a sparring match. It was Mr. Stoll's thought that the laws and rules need to be revised to exempt combatants under the age of 16. There would be no license or blood work required. He further stated that when regulating an event he does not allow anyone under the age of 16 to compete. It was mentioned that perhaps we could register kids at a reduced rate of perhaps \$50 and not require the blood work or drug test. Mr. Perez stated that the blood work and license is good for a full year in other states and would like it if the Commission consider extending these requirements. Licenses are good for a full year in Idaho. Mr. Ellsworth explained that the Commission does have the discretion to limit or control a child from getting into the ring with an adult. Mr. Katsilometes stated that if they got the kids licensed immediately the cost is only \$30.00. It was determined that the Commissioner cannot waive the requirement for blood work or drug testing. At this time the combatants have to comply with the blood work and drug testing in order to compete. The Commission will continue to review the issues to see if it wants to propose any law or rule changes with regard to licensure and blood work for combatants under the age of 16 and registering those under 15 years of age.

Mr. Stoll presented the recommended fee schedules for use in Boxing and Mixed Martial Arts events. Mr. Katsilometes approved these schedules to become effective when the fees go into effect.

Professional Wrestling – Elijah Morris explained that he would like to get information on what is necessary to conduct professional wrestling events in Idaho. He explained their community has grown and they would like to eventually work toward NWA (National Wrestling Alliance) affiliation or presence. Mr. Stoll explained to him that they would need combatant licenses, sanction permits, liability insurance and promoters licenses and that the initial tax would need to be paid prior to any event with a total 5% of the gate due after the event. Mr. Katsilometes stated that Idaho would look at Utah wrestling for restrictions and costs. Mr. Morris stated that they are not planning any events in the near future, but wanted to see what all was involved.

Mad Marvins Cage Warriors – A request was received regarding this event that would include kids from drug court in competition similar to a high school smoker. The kids would be wearing headgear and using 16 ounce gloves. There is no exemption for this type of event and it would fall under the same requirements as the Muay Thai event discussed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Stoll will e-mail Marvin Crane.

Tough Man Style Competition in Magic Valley – A request was received from Mr. Larsen regarding an elimination boxing event being considered in the Magic Valley. Discussion was held. They would need to comply with all requirements

of a sanctioned event. Each week would be a separate sanctioned event so would require multiple sanction permit applications.

Training – Training was conducted for the Deputy Commissioners. Mr. Kersey and Mr. Stoll explained how they oversee events. Blank forms were provided to Mr. Vestal including: weigh in sheets, pre and post fight physical forms, judges cards, wrist bands, results sheets, etc. Mr. Kersey also provided a step by step instruction sheet for events.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 3:45 P.M

Tom Katsilometes, Chair

Tana Cory, Bureau Chief